

Michigan is positioned to lead driverless car States

As the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI) Great Lakes Chapter President and AUVSI Driverless Car Committee chairman, I highly recommend that Michigan enact legislation facilitating the use of Driverless Cars on Michigan Roads.

Michigan has a technology leadership advantage over all States through the density and accomplishments of its many organizations spearheading the Driverless Car industry.

Michigan is the obvious leader in OEMS with GM, Ford & Chrysler, all having active programs in development here in Michigan. We want to support their efforts and engage the other 300 automotive R&D companies who can lend their expertise to the field.

The Michigan automotive supplier base including Continental, Takata, Magna and others all have active Michigan Driverless car research and demonstrators.

Michigan Universities are leading the way in many Intelligent vehicle programs aimed at Driverless Cars. No other state has the density of universities with ongoing research programs. Those Universities include: UofM Ann Arbor & Dearborn, Oakland University, Michigan Tech, Lawrence Tech, University of Detroit Mercy, Kettering and others growing efforts.

Truck and defense manufacturers all having Michigan R&D facilities including: BAE Systems, GDLS, Oshkosh, AM General, Meritor and others will integrate driverless car technologies into their fleet and need to test locally.

From a US Government perspective, we have the world class Tank-Automotive Command integrating those technologies into the military truck fleet and local experimentation in convoy activities to Camps Grayling & Custer are a necessity.

Please take decisive and comprehensive leader to insure that inherently automotive capabilities and work stays here in Michigan.

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